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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for forming a centered bore within an intramedullary canal of a femur in preparation for the implantation of a prosthetic device. The apparatus comprises a substantially T-shaped device formed from a handle and an elongated rigid rod. The rod includes outwardly projecting fins at its distal end adapted to engage the interior wall of the cortex of the femur, thus centering the bore. The method includes preparing the femur for implantation by exposing the femoral neck and then inserting the rod into the intramedullary canal until the fins engage the cortex. If a device has a pair of fins disposed on the rod at 180° relative to one another, the device is withdrawn, rotated ninety degrees, and reinserted into the intramedullary canal, again allowing the fins to engage the cortex. Once the bore is formed, it is used to guide compacting devices which shape and size a cavity within the femur to receive the prosthesis. Inasmuch as the bore is centered within the intramedullary canal, the prosthesis also is centered when it is attached to the femur.